

**Remarks/Arguments:**

Claims 15-26 are pending in the above-identified application. Claims 1-14 are canceled and claims 21-26 are newly added.

Furthermore, claims 21-26 are newly added and are directed to "[a] method for identifying an encryption key in an elliptic curve cryptographic system..." (emphasis added). Basis for the additions is provided in claims 15-20, and on pages 18-19 of the specification in paragraphs 0072-0074. These claims are applications of the allowed claims 15-26 to the calculation of an encryption value using an elliptic curve algorithm. Accordingly, because claims 15-26 are in condition for allowance, newly added claims 21-26 are in condition for allowance.

The Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication in the Office Action that claims 15-20 are allowed. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, however, the Applicant requests that the Examiner provide preferable consideration to claims 21-26.

Respectfully submitted,



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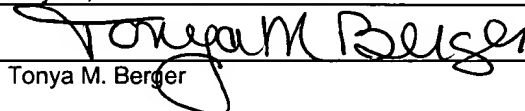
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